

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-3, 5-7, 10, 12, 13, 64, 69, and 81 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 2, and 5 being independent. Previously withdrawn claims 39-49, 52-63, 65-67, and 70-80, and claims 4, 8, 14, 15, 17-38, 50, 51, and 68 are canceled herein without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. Claims 1, 2, 5, and 69 have been amended herein, as suggested by the Examiner. Claim 81 is newly added. No new matter has been added.

CONSIDERATION OF SEPTEMBER 2, 2005 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Initially, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner return the initialed PTO-1449 form from the September 2, 2005 Information Disclosure Statement, indicating that the document listed thereon has been considered.

STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for conducting telephonic interviews with Applicant's attorneys, David A. Divine and Michael K. Colby, on October 18, 2005, October 25, 2005, and October 27, 2005.

During the interviews, Applicant's attorney presented arguments traversing the rejections based on Hallberg et al. and Koppolu et al. The Examiner took the position that the claims are too broad, but suggested amending claim 1 to include the features of claim 8, and amending claim 68 to include the features of any of claims 2 and 5-7.

In order to expedite allowance of the application, and without conceding the propriety of the rejections, Applicant has amended independent claim 1 as suggested by the Examiner. Also,

the features of claim 68 have been added to independent claims 2 and 5. Accordingly, Applicant submits that the claims are in condition for allowance.

§102 REJECTION

Claims 68 and 69 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by the publication "Using Microsoft Excel 97" (Hallberg et al.). This rejection is respectfully traversed. Nevertheless, without conceding the propriety of the rejection, independent claim 68 has been canceled, and claim 69 has been amended to depend from independent claim 2, thereby obviating the rejection.

§103 REJECTION

Claims 1-10, 12-38, 50, 51, and 64 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Hallberg et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,801,701 (Koppolu et al.). This rejection is respectfully traversed. Initially, Applicant notes that claims 9 and 16 were previously canceled, thereby rendering the rejection of those claims moot. In addition, without conceding the propriety of the rejection, claims 4, 8, 14, 15, 17-38, 50, and 51 have been canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. Also, claims 1, 2, and 5 have been amended, as suggested by the Examiner during the interviews.

Independent claim 1 as presently presented recites:

1. A method implemented at least partially by a computer, the method comprising:
 - presenting a word processing table having multiple cells within a document; and
 - presenting a free floating field configured for insertion into the document;
 - exhibiting spreadsheet features together with the word processing table when a user is editing the word processing table;

enabling a user to reference a cell in the word processing table when entering a formula into the free floating field;
overlaying a formula edit box on a particular cell in the table to facilitate user entry of a formula into the particular cell;
and
resizing the formula edit box as the user enters the formula, while maintaining the size of the particular cell and table as a whole,
wherein the method is provide by a single software architecture.

As discussed during the interviews, neither Hallberg et al. nor Koppolu et al. has been shown to disclose or suggest such features. Accordingly, independent claim 1 is allowable over Hallberg et al. and Koppolu et al.

Independent claims 2 as presently presented recites:

2. A method implemented at least partially by a computer, the method comprising:
presenting a word processing table and a free floating field within a document;
exhibiting spreadsheet features together with the word processing table when a user is editing the word processing table;
presenting a first spreadsheet table supporting spreadsheet functionality and having multiple cells; and
presenting a second spreadsheet table nested within a cell of the first table,
wherein the document is a markup document, and the presenting comprises rendering the markup document.

As discussed during the interviews, neither Hallberg et al. nor Koppolu et al. has been shown to disclose or suggest such features. Accordingly, independent claim 2 is allowable over Hallberg et al. and Koppolu et al.

Independent claims 5 as presently presented recites:

5. A method implemented at least partially by a computer, the method comprising:
presenting a word processing table within a document;
exhibiting spreadsheet features together with the word processing table when a user is editing the word processing table;
determining, upon selection of a cell in the word processing table, a type of contents in the cell;
interpreting user entry based upon the type of contents in the cell, presenting a first spreadsheet table supporting spreadsheet functionality and having multiple cells; and
presenting a second spreadsheet table nested within a cell of the first table.

As discussed during the interviews, neither Hallberg et al. nor Koppolu et al. has been shown to disclose or suggest such features. Accordingly, independent claim 5 is allowable over Hallberg et al. and Koppolu et al.

Dependent claims 3, 6, 7, 10, 12, 13, 64, and 69 depend from one of independent claims 1, 2, and 5, and are allowable by virtue of their dependency from the respective base claim, as well as for the additional features that they recite.

New dependent claim 81 depends from independent claim 5, and is allowable by virtue of this dependency, as well as for the additional features that it recites.

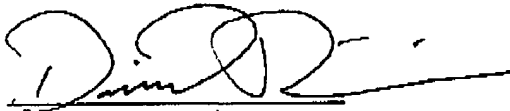
CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, claims 1-3, 5-7, 10, 12, 13, 64, 69, and 81 are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the §§ 102 and 103 rejections, and a notice of allowance.

If there are any issues that would prevent allowance of this case, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney to resolve them.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: 10-28-05

By: 

David A. Divine
Lee & Hayes, pllc
Reg. No. 51,275
(509) 324-9256 ext. 233